

NOTICE TO THE BAR

Re: Defaults Scheduled for Review by the Disciplinary Review Board

The following matters have been certified to the Disciplinary Review Board as defaults, in accordance with R. 1:20-4(f):

In the Matter of John Charles Allen

Docket No. DRB 21-126

District Docket No. VIII-2020-0033E

In the Matter of Michael R. Shapiro

Docket No. DRB 21-127

District Docket No. XIV-2020-0372E

In the Matter of Joel S. Ziegler

Docket No. DRB 21-128

District Docket No. XIV-2020-0378E

In the Matter of Darryl M. Saunders

Docket No. DRB 21-131

District Docket No. XIV-2020-0371E

In the Matter of George R. Saponaro

Docket No. DRB 21-132

District Docket No. XIV-2020-0370E

These matters are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board on **Thursday, September 23, 2021**. R. 1:20-4(f) provides that an attorney-respondent's failure to timely file an answer "shall be deemed an admission that the allegations of the complaint are true and . . . provide sufficient basis for the imposition of discipline." Although chances for a successful motion are limited, a motion to vacate the default may be filed with the Board by no later than **August 25, 2021**. MOTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE REVIEWED BY THE BOARD. The motion should specify why the attorney-respondent failed to file a timely answer (including lack of notice) and should set forth any claimed meritorious defenses to the ethics charge. The motion must also be simultaneously served on the Director of the Office of Attorney Ethics and, where appropriate, the district ethics committee responsible for the underlying ethics matter. A certification regarding that service must accompany any documents filed with the Board.

Respondents are hereby advised that, generally, in a default matter, the discipline is enhanced to reflect a respondent's failure to cooperate with disciplinary authorities as an aggravating factor. In re Kivler, 193 N.J. 332, 338 (2008).

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Respondents may communicate with the Board by contacting the Office of Board Counsel at:

P.O. Box 962, Trenton, NJ 08625, Telephone: 609-815-2920

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Johanna Barba Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Johanna" being more prominent and the last name "Jones" following in a similar style.

Dated: July 22, 2021

Johanna Barba Jones
Chief Counsel
Disciplinary Review Board